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LB 620

groups of people. And it is in those kinds of situations that we need to build coalitions in this Legislature that reach out and deal with that kind of problem. And on the employee side, we have to reach out and deal with that problem. Senator Jensen well knows, having been chair of the Health Committee now for a period of time, that we have people coming in for subsidies of one type or another...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...from government who shouldn't be in that position. They're hard-working Americans. Why do they need to come in for Medicare...or for Medicaid and for the various subsidies that have been so expensive for us in recent years? That all could go away, we could have small government, Senator Wehrbein, as you well know, if we paid people enough they didn't have to come in for the subsidies. At some point in time we have to change our mentality about this and do some experimenting in situations to see if a different way cannot work a little better. And if you're going to start out and take a serious look at how we get rid of government subsidies for the poor and look at a minimum wage...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...as more of a solution...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Chambers, on the Beutler amendment to LB 620.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, do we want sweat shops in Nebraska? Everybody would say, no. What is it that makes a place of employment a sweat shop? Is it the environmental temperature? Not at all. Just because you work in a location and you sweat does not mean it's a sweat shop. It becomes a sweat shop based on the type of compensation you get for the type of work you do and the hours that you are required to work. We have legislation and no self-respecting business, I don't know if there are any, but if theoretically there are self-respecting businesses, no such business would try to work people into the ground. So, looking at the amount of